

NEWS RELEASE

*OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
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For Immediate Release

MAY 15, 2006

MT. VERNON MAN SENTENCED AS ARMED CAREER OFFENDER

Randy G. Massey, Acting United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, announced today that on May 12, 2006, **DEONDERY L. CHAMBERS, JR.**, age 26, of Mt. Vernon, Illinois, was sentenced in the United States District Court in Benton, Illinois. CHAMBERS was sentenced to 188 months imprisonment, was fined \$750, and was placed on 5 years supervised release.

CHAMBERS had previously pleaded guilty to a one count Indictment for being a convicted felon in possession of a firearm.

Because of CHAMBERS' prior convictions, the Court sentenced CHAMBERS as an Armed Career Criminal.

The investigation in this case was a cooperative effort between federal, state, and local law enforcement including the Mt. Vernon Police Department, the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department, the Joint Narcotics Unit of the Mt. Vernon Police Department and the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms, and the Illinois State Police pursuant to their participation in the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative.

Project Safe Neighborhoods is a joint and cooperative effort of the United States Attorney's Office, the Jefferson County State's Attorney's Office, the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms, the Illinois State Police, and local law enforcement departments directed at removing guns and drugs from our communities.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney George Norwood.